

as a rule, and in some seasons I do not notice more than two or three specimens; this year, however, proved the exception, for they were extremely abundant at the end of May and in June, and were to be seen by dozens flying round, and sitting on, the apple and lilac blossom in the bright sunshine. Near these special attractions the whole air seemed full of them, and every bunch of lilac bloom, however small, had several tenants. That this beetle was no less abundant in at least one other part of the country is clear from a letter headed "Injurious Insects in 1895," and published in "The Times" of December 24th, in which Miss E. A. Ormerod says, "The beautiful golden chafer, the *Cetonia aurata*, appeared in such vast numbers in one district that the capture of thousands appeared not to lessen the numbers, and much damage was done by the beetles to apple and other blossoms."—ID.

*Psammobius cæsus*, Panz., in the Scilly Isles.—I took two or three specimens of this species on Tresco, one of the Scilly Isles, in October, 1890. Mr. J. J. Walker named the insect for me. Had I known it was a rarity I might have hunted for more.\*—C. W. DALE, Glanvilles Wootton, Dorset: December 20th, 1895.

*Exotic Coccids in England.*—*Parlatoria Pergandii*, Comstock: some dark specks on the rind of an orange bought in a village shop proved upon examination to be scales of the above species. They covered living females and eggs; the former of a dull purplish colour. I notice that the ventral part of the scale is well developed, and completely encloses the insect. *Asterolecanium bambusæ*, Boisd.: in the palm house at Kew I find a species of *Asterolecanium* plentiful upon the stems and leaves of several kinds of bamboo. It appears to be identical with *A. bambusæ* of Boisduval.—E. E. GREEN, Bearsted, Kent: December, 1895.

*Nothochrysa capitata* at Huddersfield.—Mr. S. L. Mosley of this town has just given me a specimen of *Nothochrysa capitata* taken during the past season at Newsome, Huddersfield. The species has not hitherto been recorded so far west in Yorkshire, but I have taken it in several widely separated woods further east in the county.—GEO. T. PORRITT, Crosland Hall, Huddersfield: January 10th, 1896.

*Abundance of Halesus guttatipennis* in North Yorkshire.—Several weeks ago my friend Mr. G. C. Dennis, of York, wrote me that when fishing at Pickering on November 9th last, he noticed a Trichopteron in immense profusion on the bushes along the water side, and that he had boxed a few specimens for me to see. These specimens (14 in number) he brought here a few days ago, and my pleasure may be imagined when I saw they were *Halesus guttatipennis*, a species hitherto so rare that only three British examples had been recorded, and all of them taken singly. Mr. Dennis says that on the day he saw them he could easily have taken a thousand.—ID.

[The species of the genus *Halesus* are often of local distribution, but, as a rule, occurring in profusion in their special habitats; they are mostly strictly autumnal.

\* I also have seen one of the specimens, and there can be no doubt as to the determination.—G. C. C.